## POLICY STATEMENT

## Section 26.1, 26.23 Objectives/Policy Statement

The Wichita Falls Transit System has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. The City of Wichita Falls has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the City of Wichita Falls has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of the Wichita Falls Transit System to ensure that DBE's as defined in part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also our policy:

- 1. To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT assisted contracts;
- 2. To create a level playing field on which DBE's can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
- 3. To ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- 4. To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBE's;
- 5. To help remove barriers to the participation of DBE's in DOT assisted contracts;
- 6. To promote the use of DBEs in all types of federally-assisted contracts and procurement activities conducted by recipients;
- 7. To assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program; and
- 8. To provide appropriate flexibility to recipients of Federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

The Director of Aviation, Traffic and Transportation has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, the Director of Aviation, Traffic and Transportation is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program for the Wichita Falls Transit System.

Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by the Wichita Falls Transit System in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

The Wichita Falls Transit System has disseminated this policy statement to the Wichita Falls City Council and all of the components of our organization. We have distributed this statement to DBE and non-DBE business communities that have the potential to perform work for us on DOT- assisted contracts. Distribution of this policy statement will be accomplished via direct mail to DBE businesses of record located in the DBE Directory of this policy statement and to non-DBE businesses of record that the Wichita Falls Transit System currently does business with.

Darron Leiker, City Manager

Date

1-6-2020